

## The right-to-die judgement

On March 22, 2002, Miss B won her high court battle for the 'right to die.' It was a landmark ruling of a case that has been under discussion since 2001. Miss B was warned that a malformation of blood vessels in her spine could result in severe disability. She wrote a will stating that if this happened, she did not want to be treated and kept alive on a ventilator. At the beginning of 2001, she was left paralysed from the neck down, and was wholly dependant on a ventilator. The doctors would not accept her will and so would not switch off the machine. Today Miss B won the right to do just that. Read on to find out more.

Before you continue reading, what is your reaction to these questions?

- Should humans have the right to choose when they want to die?
- Should people be forced to stay alive?
- How can we judge if a person is competent to make this decision for him or herself?
- Is euthanasia legal in your country?

Before you read the rest of the article [try this vocabulary activity](#) which practises your understanding of words you'll find in the article. Now [read the article](#).

<http://www.britishcouncil.org/professionals-analysis-euthanasia.htm>